



President
George J.Kourpias

Secretary-Treasurer
Ruben Burks

January 30, 2006

Honorable John Dingell
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Dingell:

On behalf of the more than three million members of the Alliance for Retired Americans, I am writing you in support of your legislation, the Medicare Prescription Emergency Guarantee Act. This legislation is desperately needed now by millions of older Americans, including many of our members.

We have received reports daily from our members regarding great confusion surrounding the implementation of the Medicare Part D prescription program. Your legislation includes provisions to ensure that Medicare beneficiaries continue to receive their necessary prescriptions if enrollment cannot be immediately confirmed. This is a vital provision for the quality of life of millions of older Americans.

The Alliance for Retired Americans also supports provisions in your legislation that require Medicare beneficiaries receive a standard, uniform notice when a plan does not cover a particular medication with clear instructions on the appeals process. Most important, Medicare beneficiaries will continue to receive their prescription medications during the appeals process.

Older Americans need the provisions of the Medicare Prescription Emergency Guarantee Act enacted as soon as possible. The Alliance for Retired Americans supports your legislation and urges swift enactment of it.

Sincerely yours,

Richard J. Fiesta
Director of Government
and Political Affairs